

INSTITUTE FOR DEFENSE ANALYSES

Program Analysis Division



400 Army-Navy Drive, Arlington, Virginia 22202 • Telephone (703) 558-1000

Executive Registry
80-46297

15 August 1980

*Rec'd ODCI
18 Aug.*

Adm. Stanfield Turner, USN (Ret.)
Director of Central Intelligence
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Stan:

Thank you for your kind words on my article. I enjoyed your article and was glad to see it published. I think the debate on the Navy's future is advanced by such articles written by Naval officers.

The reason for my letter is that I am currently working with two colleagues on a paper on the determinants of our defense posture. We are talking to a number of current and former DOD officials and would be particularly interested in meeting with you if that is possible. I have attached a list of issues we might pursue in such a meeting.

If you would be able to meet with us, I can be reached at 558-1323 to set up a meeting at your convenience.

*OK 1/2 hr
w/BoT*

Sincerely,

Herschel

Herschel Kanter

19 AUG 1980

Enclosure

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*Copy to [redacted] 19 Aug 80
w/ note from [redacted]*

Meeting set for 1530, 26 August 80



QUESTIONS

1. To what degree have our foreign policy goals actually shaped our military posture? How does this differ between the long term and short term?
2. How influential are other factors:
 - a) domestic economic, political, and social considerations
 - b) the DOD bureaucracy, organization, and processes
 - c) Service interests.
3. To what extent has our posture been shaped by "strategic dilemmas": the unknown impact of tactical nuclear weapons on operations; Russian superiority on the Eurasian landmass and our seeming inability to match them (leading to emphasis on deterrence rather than a fighting capability); the fact that the most serious threat is the least likely; short war vs. long war.
4. Have "doctrines" played a significant role in shaping policy?
5. Where does broad strategic planning go on in government? Where should it?
6. Given the realities of a ponderous defense bureaucracy, diffusion of decisionmaking, and an "open" government, is strategic planning possible for the U.S.?
7. What are the main strategic premises that underlie our military policy and posture?